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Programme for development of Industries.

* 371 *Q.*—Sri T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have drawn up any programme in regard to the development of industries, big and small; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place it on the table of the House showing also the industries classified as Village Industries, Cottage Industries, Basic Industries, Small-scale Industries and Large-scale Industries?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Draft Second Five-Year Plan for Madras State which has been submitted to the Planning Commission and copies of which have been circulated to all hon. Members of the House."

Recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission.

* 372 *Q.*—Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased—

(*a*) to lay on the table of the House a summary of the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission with regard to (i) State finances and (ii) local finance; and

(*b*) to state what steps have been taken by the Government to implement the same?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Minister for Finance) :—" (*a*) Four sets of the Report of the Taxation Enquiry Commission (Volumes I to III) are available in the Madras Legislature Library; Volume III of the Report contains the recommendations of the Commission in regard to State Finances as also Local Finances together with a summary.

" (*b*) The recommendations of the Commission are under the consideration of the Government and it will take some time before a decision is reached on each of the proposals."

Sri K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" May I know whether Government could supply us copies, even for cost because, it is a big report of 500 pages and it deals with the important matter of taxation? " 11–20 a.m.

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know if copies are available for sale. I shall look into the matter."

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I request the Hon. Minister to indicate to us the steps taken by Government to improve the finances of District Boards and Municipal Councils? "

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, that is a large question and I cannot give a complete answer to that now. Anyhow, if a separate question is put, I shall try to answer it."

Periods of work for Language Pandits in High Schools.

* 373 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state with reference to the answer to starred Legislative Council Question No. 15 answered on 29th December 1953, at what stage the question of reducing the minimum number of periods of work in High School classes insisted on for eligibility to I grade scales of pay in the case of Language Pandits stands?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Finance) :—" There is no proposal to reduce the number of periods of work in High school forms for language Pandits other than Hindi Pandits so as to enable them to get pay in the Grade I scale.

" The question was however considered in respect of Hindi Pandits, and deferred as provision has since been made under Part II of the First Language, which will increase the number of periods of study of Hindi."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know whether the figures were gathered as to the additional amount that would be required if the limit were reduced to 16 periods? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know whether the Government would kindly consider the claims of Tamil and other language Pandits to be placed on a par with those teaching English at least now when there is much pressure from the public to recognise the value of Tamil? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

Introduction of single point sales tax.

* 374 *Q.*—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to introduce single point sales tax on certain commodities like yarn, oil, etc., as an experimental measure?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" There is no such proposal at present. The Government propose to hold a conference of officials and non-officials shortly to discuss matters relating to sales tax. The question whether single point tax can be levied on any, and if so, on what articles will also be considered then."